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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE CENTER

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PHOTOGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE BRIEF

SUBJECT : Wu-han Urban Area NO. : B-1015-59
LOCATION : Hupeh Province, China DATE: 1 September 59
MAP DATA : ATMP 0493-9999-100A, 0493-9999-1-25 MA, 0493-9999-4-25MA

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The Wu-han area (30°35'N/114°17'E), which consists of the neighboring cities of Wu-chang, Han-kou, and Han-yang, is a port complex and industrial center located at the confluence of the Yangtze and Han Rivers, approximately 425 miles west-southwest of Shanghai. The Wu-han cities were covered on

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A study of this photography reveals that the Wu-han complex has expanded considerably. New industries, including a large heavy machinery plant and several smaller plants, and new storage areas now exist near the outskirts of the complex.

A new shipbuilding yard is located at the junction of the Hsun-ssu and Yangtze Rivers. T-43 Class minesweepers are under construction on the ways and two "W" Class submarines were observed moored nearby.

In addition to the now completed Yangtze River Bridge, there are two new bridges (one railroad and one highway) crossing the Han River. A major highway improvement program appears to be in progress in the Wu-han area.

Changes in the rail pattern are reflected in the construction of new rail spurs throughout the area and a new marshalling yard north of Han-kou. A rail line, still under construction, crosses the new Han River railroad bridge, bypasses Han-kou on the northwest, and connects with an existing rail line at Shangtan-shui-chih.

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Wu-chang Satellite Airfield appears to have been abandoned. The N/S runway at Wu-chang Airfield has been resurfaced (concrete) while the E/W runway appears in a state of disuse. Han-kou Airfield has been improved with the resurfacing of its two runways.

An ore-dressing plant and a probable sintering plant were observed at the Ta-yeh iron mines, 44 miles southeast of Wu-han.

Requests for detailed information concerning items of intelligence interest in this area may be directed to PIC/CCS, code 163, extension 624.

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